

# **REPORT OF RCRA COMPLIANCE INSPECTION**

At

**Midwest Oil Refining Company**  
1900 Walton Road  
St. Louis, MO 63114  
Phone No.: (314) 427-2662  
EPA I.D. NUMBER: MOD006290803

On

October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2002

By

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION VII  
Environmental Services Division

## **INTRODUCTION**

At the request of the Air, RCRA & Toxics Division (ARTD), a Used Oil compliance evaluation inspection (UOCEI) was conducted at Midwest Oil Refining Co. in St. Louis, MO on 10/17/02. The UOCEI was conducted under the authority of Section 3007 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), as amended. The inspection was a Level B Multi-Media Inspection. A Multi-Media Screening checklist is attached to this report (attachment 1). This narrative report and attachments present the results of the UOCEI.

## **PARTICIPANTS**

Midwest Oil Refining Co. (Midwest):  
Wayne Gettinger, Vice President  
Shirley Schellman, Bookkeeper

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):  
David N. Whiting, Environmental Engineer

## **INSPECTION PROCEDURE**

Upon arrival at Midwest I contacted Mr. Gettinger, presented him my credentials and explained the purpose and procedure of the inspection to him. I also discussed the confidentiality of business information with him. I explained to Mr. Gettinger my need to collect accurate information and left with him a copy of U.S.C. Sections 1001 & 1002. The inspection consisted of a discussion of operations, used oil management practices, a review of pertinent documents,

and a visual examination of the facility. Information collected during the UOCEI is recorded on data gathering sheets which are referenced in the report. At the end of the inspection an exit interview was held with Mr. Gettinger and Ms. Schellman. During the exit interview Ms. Schellman acknowledged receipt of the following by her signature: an Inspection Confidentiality Notice form and a Receipt for Documents (attachments 2-3).

## **FACILITY DESCRIPTION**

Midwest collects used oil from generators, filters the used oil, has the used oil tested to ensure it meets used oil specifications and then ships the used oil off-site for use as industrial fuel. Midwest has three used oil collection trucks. The used oil collected is stored in tanks on-site. The used oil is shipped off-site in tank trailer transports, which are not owned or operated by Midwest.

Midwest is located on property about three acres in size (attachment 4). The property is located in an area which appears to be zoned for commercial and industrial use. Six employees staff operations one shift per day, five days per week.

## **FINDINGS AND OBSERVATIONS**

Midwest has notified as a transporter and processor of used oil. Mr. Gettinger said they discontinued a former distillation process about 10 years ago (attachment 5). Mr. Gettinger said the used oil they collect is now only filtered to remove solids.

About 10 years ago, Midwest bought a used oil collection company called Earl's Drain Oil. Ms. Schellman said they bought the company for its business and good will. When Earl's Drain Oil notified, it was issued the ID # MOD021510771.

### **Used Oil Generation**

Used oil is generated from oil changes on the three trucks and four passenger vehicles. The amount of used oil generated is about 50 gallons per year. The used oil generated is added to the used oil collected from other generators.

### **Used Oil Transport**

When Midwest collects used oil from generators, each batch is subjected to a halogen presence scan with a Dexsil "Clor-D-Tect 1000" to ensure the halogen content is less than 1,000 ppm (attachment 6). Mr. Gettinger said they do not collect any used oil which does not pass the scan (attachment 13 pg. 8).

The used oil collected by each truck is recorded by each driver on a transport shipment record (attachment 7). In addition, Ms. Schellman keeps a log book identifying the amount of used oil collected each day.

The used oil is stored in tanks at the Midwest tank farm (attachment 8). Used oil is only stored in tanks: 15, 16, 17, 18, 23C, 23D and 30. Mr. Gettinger said most of the rest of the tanks are empty and that some new hydraulic oil and lube oil is stored in tanks 1A, 1B and 1C.

Midwest completes a report for Missouri Dept. of Natural Resources (MDNR) which identifies the annual amount of used oil collected (attachment 9). For the 12 months ending 6/30/01 Midwest collected about 550,000 gallons. For the 12 months ending 6/30/02 Midwest collected about 500,000 gallons. Ms. Schellman said the amount handled has been decreasing each year.

While reviewing records, I did not see any time within the last year when used oil would have been stored over 35 days (attachment 13 pg. 7). Ms. Schellman said they have stored used oil over 35 days in the past (because of reduced demand) and may do so again in the future. I told Ms. Schellman and Mr. Gettinger that the used oil processor requirements in 40 CFR 279 Subpart F, are applicable to used oil transporters who store used oil over 35 days.

Secondary containment for the tank farm is provided by sloping ground which is surrounded by an earthen berm (see photos 1-2 and attachment 10). Mr. Gettinger said he thought the containment area was constructed during the late 1970's and that clay was trucked in for its construction. It is not clear from the SPCC plan if the containment system is sufficiently impervious to used oil to prevent any used oil released into the containment system from migrating out of the system to the soil, groundwater, or surface water, as required by 40 CFR 279.45(e)(2). The SPCC plan does not discuss the permeability of the containment system soil, which Mr. Gettinger thinks is adequate because of clay being used in construction. I discussed this with Mr. Gettinger and Ms. Schellman during the UOCEI. Mr. Gettinger said he does not think there has been any release of used oil, except for some minor spills.

### **Used Oil Processing**

Midwest personnel filter the used oil collected before it is put in storage tanks. Mr. Gettinger said the filter residue is like "lint" and does not contain any free liquid (attachment 13 pg. 11). Mr. Gettinger said the filter residue is disposed with general trash. Midwest appears to be in compliance with requirements applicable to a used oil processor. Two-way communication devices are available for use by employees at areas of used oil management and storage. Midwest has an SPCC plan and additional information on emergency response, including a list of emergency coordinators and an evacuation plan. Ms. Schellman said Midwest does not have a formal written waste analysis plan as specified in 40 CFR 279.55, but Ms. Schellman does have notes on used oil sample collection and analysis. The notes identify the sample location, container size, shipping instructions, addresses and phone numbers of labs and analytical services to request. Ms. Schellman said they test the contents of each used oil tank before the used oil is shipped off-site. Midwest does not send a letter to EPA reporting used oil activity on a biennial basis per 40 CFR 279.57(b), but Midwest does send an annual report to MDNR.

### **Used Oil Fuel Marketing**

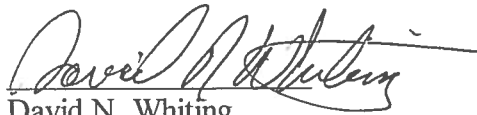
Midwest ships the used oil off-site with the intended use as industrial fuel. The two firms which receive most of Midwest's used oil for industrial fuel use are Fisher Oil Company and Gateway Petroleum (attachment 11). Midwest is first to claim the used oil meets specifications. Midwest has a test performed to ensure that the used oil is on-spec before each off-site shipment (attachment 12). Ms. Schellman keeps a log identifying all the off-site shipment: dates, quantities and locations. The test results are also kept in the log book for off-site shipments.

### **RCRA Status**

Midwest is a transporter and processor of used oil and a marketer of on-specification used oil fuel.

### **Summary**

No violations were cited during the UOCEI. I did explain to Mr. Gettinger and Ms. Schellman that further review and investigation of the containment system might be needed to determine its compliance status. I also explained that a written used oil analysis plan would be preferable to Ms. Schellman's notes on used oil analysis.



David N. Whiting

Environmental Engineer

Date: 10/31/02

#### **Attachments**

1. Region VII multi-media screening checklist (1 2-sided page)
2. Inspection Confidentiality Notice form
3. Receipt for Documents
4. Facility photo (one 11x17 page)
5. Old wastewater discharge letter
6. Clor-D-Tect 1000 instructions (2 pages)
7. Daily collection record for a truck, typical
8. Tank farm arrangement and capacities (3 pages)
9. Transporter report to MDNR (2 pages)
10. SPCC plan excerpt and letter to EPA (2 pages)
11. Bills of lading for shipments to Fisher and Gateway (4 pages)
12. Analytical results, typical (3 pages)
13. Used oil inspection data gathering sheets (26 pages)
14. Photographs, 2 photos